

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

### **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently amended) A method of annotating a document of a document management system, the method comprising:  
generating executable code to detect the annotation which requires an action to be undertaken;

assigning the executable code configured to an active property for dynamically changing the system configuration of the document to include the desired configuration which achieves the desired operation; and

attaching the active property to the document, the property identifying the desired operation to be undertaken in connection with the document as required by the annotation;

electronically scanning the document;

detecting the annotation added to the scanned document;

decoding the detected annotation;

examining content of the decoded annotation;

determining an action to be undertaken with reference to the document, based on the content of the annotation; and

performing the action required by the content of the annotation,  
wherein the document management system is configured to dynamically charge a system configuration of the document.

2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation is detected by an active annotation mechanism configured to be aware of a nature of the annotation content and applications whose behavior is coordinated to perform the action required by the annotation, and wherein operation of the active annotation mechanism permits performance of the action required by the content of the annotation without user intervention.

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein the active annotation mechanism is invoked when the document is stored.

4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein the active annotation mechanism is invoked at predetermined time intervals.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation carries at least one of an activity to be carried out and a parameter that configures that activity.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation is stored with the document.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation is stored separate from the document.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the active annotation mechanism operates over at least plain text, files, program source code and presentations.

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation is placed on the document at least as one of an in-line annotation and an out-of-band annotation.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~23~~ 1, further including, assigning a triggering event to the active property such that the property invokes the executable code in response to the triggering event; and  
upon an occurrence of the triggering event, invoking the executable code of the actual property and dynamically changing the system configuration of the document to include the desired configuration, as required by the annotation.